

U.F.O.

1981

Tasmania



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U.F.O. Investigation
Centre T.U.F.O.I.C.

32

TUFOIC - 1981

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TUFOIC's Report is published annually and is available to the public, members, and for exchange with UFO organisations. The Centre also prints two newsletters during the year to keep members informed with ongoing sightings. See the back page for an application to join the Centre.

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- Cover.. Highland Encounter
 (drawing by D. Green).

Advocate — 27-11-1980

U.F.O.s IN FOCUS

SYDNEY — Some down-to-earth explanations for U.F.O.s will be discussed at a conference in Canberra this weekend.

These include papers on geological causes for U.F.O. landing traces, psychological explanation for some "close encounter" experiences with unidentified flying objects, and the problems of scientifically examining U.F.O. sightings in Australia.

The conference is being sponsored by the Australian Centre for U.F.O. studies and will finish on Monday.

YEAR'S SIGHTINGS STATISTICS

Last year we commented on the drop in investigations and unexplained cases. Little did we realise what was in store for 1980. Not only has the unexplained total fallen again; the number of investigations is back to the levels of the late 1960s.

However, we can take heart from the fact that the drop off in activity seems to have spread Australia wide if not World Wide at the present.

With so few cases no worthwhile patterns could be noted for the past year.

INVESTIGATIONS..COMPARITIVE FIGURES

YEAR	REPORTS	UNIDENTIFIED	UFO%
Pre65	122	22	18
1965	18	7	39
1966	33	16	48
1967	16	4	25
1968	29	6	21
1969	61	14	23
1970	43	7	16
1971	95	23	24
1972	68	14	20
1973	136	26	19
1974	158	53	33
1975	177	46	26
1976	191	42	22
1977	152	35	23
1978	175	29	16
1979	159	16	11
1980	59	8	14

ANALYSIS OF INVESTIGATIONS

Unidentified	8 (13.8%)
Investigating/Insufficient Info....	8
Astronomical	21.
Aircraft	13
Satellites	2
Meteorlogical	3
Ground Lights	1
Other Explanations	3
TOTAL INVESTIGATIONS	59

TUFOIC MEETING DATES 1981

Meetings are held at the BP Theatrette, City Mutual Building, 47 Liverpool St., commencing 8.00p.m. Prospective members and persons with sighting information are welcome.

1981 DATES

January	29th	August	14th
April	10th	October	9th
June	12th	November	27th

SIGHTINGS FOR 1980.

With so few reports for the year there has been no particular pattern to the sightings. As one would expect most of the cases have come from the Centre's home territory in the South of the state. The Centre's Northern Representative received a much reduced number of calls to check but none of these have remained unexplained. A few cases originated in the West and North West but here again an explanation was forthcoming in each instance. It is quite probable that sightings have gone unreported during the year although everything points to it having been one of the quietest periods since the Centre formed in 1965.

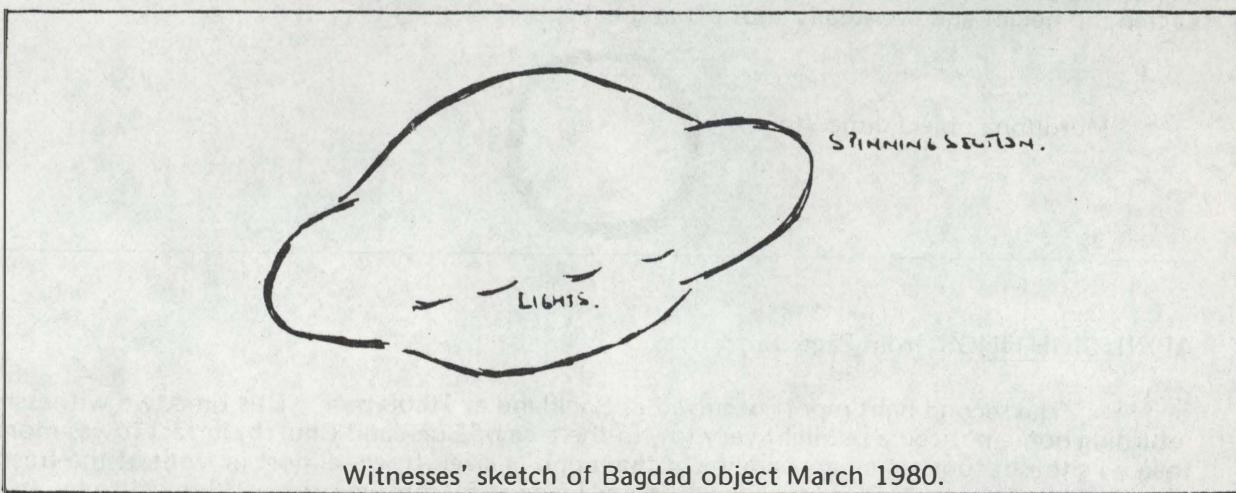
First Report

The first unexplained case for the year occurred at Bagdad on March 10th at about 9.30 p.m. There were 3 witnesses to the event although the Centre was only able to contact two of the witnesses. At the time of the incident they were parked in a car on East Bagdad Road just off the Midland Highway between Hobart and Launceston.

All the witnesses saw a whitish oval to elliptical shape moving rapidly north across their field of view to the west. The very bright object seemed to be spinning. One witness thought she heard a low whirring sound, the radio was on in the car and the front seat passenger does not recall any sound.

Two of the witnesses thought there were some yellow lights beneath the spinning bulge around the centre of the object. The object seemed to pause for a second as it went north then their view was obscured by a nearby tree. The shape did not reappear as expected on its northern trajectory but after a few seconds was seen returning back to the south. It returned at great speed to the south and was gone in a flash behind the hill to the witnesses south west.

A pale glow was noticed beyond the hill where the object was last seen; however this may have been a reflection from the distant lights of Hobart.



Witnesses' sketch of Bagdad object March 1980.

Two April Sightings.

The odd sighting drifted into the Centre as the year went by, two more occurring in April, one at Middleton the other at Buckland.

A motorist and his 3 passengers spotted a light close by their car as they turned onto the Channel Highway at Middleton eleven o'clock one night in April. The three lights were low over the tree tops to the north-west and moving closer as they looked to be in front of the nearby hills.

The middle light was the largest, it was white whilst there were two smaller orange lights, one each side of the main light. As they progressed northwards on the highway the lights took up a position higher in the sky and to their left front. The lights just remained in the same relative position to the car till they stopped in Kettering but at this stage roadside trees obscured the witnesses view of the lights.

Travelling on again the lights were to the left of the car but soon returned to a position ahead. The lights were to the north as the driver turned the car west for the last few kilometers home on the Oyster Cove Road.

On arriving home one of the witnesses got out as soon as the car had stopped and watched as the three lights continued to move to the west for a good 20 seconds before they came to a halt. The centre light changed colour to a bright greenish/red then the outside lights faded away to be followed by the centre light within half a minute.

A FRIGHTENING EXPERIENCE

Two boys aged 13 and 12 had a frightening experience whilst out shooting during the June school holidays. They were on a farm at Murdunna and the sighting was reported to the Centre by their grandmother.

The boys would go about after dark with a torch to check some traps in a nearby paddock and do a bit of shooting if they spotted any animals. It was a fine clear evening on June 7th with the stars visible in the clear sky. A couple of hundred metres from the house they reached a paddock sloping gently uphill from the bottom of the small valley.

They slowly made their way up the paddock to see what could be found in the bush at the top. At this stage they noticed a white starlike light much bigger than Venus. (it was not Venus) The light was at 120 deg elevation to the west. It did not move. They tried to rationalise what it could be, plane, reflected light etc., but now they were into the bush and lost interest in the light.

Some minutes later (about 10.30p.m.) with no sign of animal life in the bush they returned to the paddock to check if there was anything in the traps that had been set. One of the boys spotted a bandicoot, put up his rifle to take a shot, but then noticed two areas of light appear out of nowhere on the grass just 2 to 3 mts away. They were squarish in shape and 30 cmts or more across. They were just aimlessly circling about each other across the paddock.

The two boys now received another surprise as they noticed a silver $\frac{3}{4}$ moon-sized ball 30m away about 20 to 30 m off the ground above a tree. There was no connection (beam) between the lights on the paddock and this new object in the sky. The object had a glittering edge and despite its brightness did not light up the tree or ground beneath. There was nothing visible on its surface nor was there any sound.

One boy hid behind a bush; the other waited for him to shine the torch so he would not stand on any of the traps. The incident lasted about a minute. They had only hid behind the bush a few seconds when the ball object seemed to grow in size as if moving even closer to them. The older boy said it was time to make a run for it. They did not look back but made a dash for the gate out of the paddock some 100 mts off. Looking back from the gate there was nothing to be seen, no silver ball in the sky, or lights on the paddock.

The boys arrived back at the house looking very white and frightened. Nothing was visible, whilst a check the next day revealed no clues as to the identity of the silver ball.

Coincidence? Maybe not, but back in December 1969 a fisherman reported sighting a circular object with sparks falling beneath it from the nearby foreshore. This object was also at tree top height and eventually shot off at great speed.

Murdunna object June 7th.



APRIL SIGHTINGS from Page .2.

The second light report occurred at Buckland at 10.00 p.m. This time two witnesses returning home noticed a red light very low in the area of Buckland Church, in fact it was more than a light as it took on an appearance of the moon in size. It was almost in front of the trees near the church and estimated by the witness as being at 50 mts elevation. It looked to be following the course of the Tasman Highway as it passed by 150 mts from the witnesses.

Then the light changed direction and headed away to the south-east after approaching from a westerly direction. The light now also appeared only star-like in size and white in colour. The light receded into the distance over the hills towards Rheban.

MORE JUNE REPORTS

Mid June brought the only real rush of calls to the Centre during 1980, two of the cases remained unexplained after investigation. The first was by a fisherman off Cadbury's Point on the evening of June 16th.

The witness reported to the Centre that he noticed the first set of lights about 9pm, he did not take any note of the time until sighting the lights again later on.

Two Venus sized lights, white in colour were seen to the west and travelling quickly to the north. The second light was trailing just below the first. They were in view for only a few seconds before trees obscured any further view. Mr. P thought little more about the lights until about an hour later (10 pm) the same or very similar lights were spotted for the second time. The lights were still in the same configuration except they were approaching from the northern sky and heading to his east. He took more notice this time as the lights after only a second or two stopped in the north-eastern sky at about a 30 degree elevation. They remained in this position for 10 seconds, then just returned as fast into the north and were gone.

Mr. P was even more puzzled when the process was repeated 15 minutes later. Again on the same flight path they came to a halt in the same location to the north-east. This time however, there were two smaller dullish red lights one either side of the larger white lights. They took up 1 degree of sky and were lying on a 45 degree angle, the lowest red light being on the bottom left. The two small red lights faded out and the main two lights once again shot off to the north at great speed fading out into the distance. This time they did not return again. Mr. P. who has been associated with aircraft for 15 years said it was the first time he could not explain some of the nocturnal phenomena he has seen over the years. A check revealed there were no aircraft in the area at the time of the sighting.

SECOND CASE.

Two days later on June 18th two witnesses watched a strange light from Tunnel Hill on Hobart's Eastern Shore, it was between 8.30 to 9.00 p.m. at the time of the sighting.

Mrs. B had gone out to bring in some washing. She then noticed in the clear frosty sky to the south-east at 70 degree elevation a large orange star-like light. The orange was like the flames in an open fireplace. She called her husband to see the light. He had worked at the Airport for many years but could not account for what followed.

The orange light was not moving but it sent out an orange pencil-like streak of light from below; there seemed to be flames (or the appearance of) at the lower end of the streak. Next they noticed two smaller orange lights just appear to the right (west), first one then the other. They could then see that the smaller lights had started to move and they slowly merged with or somehow joined the larger light. Once this had happened, the large light just disappeared on the spot.

A light sighted at Maatsuker Island in 1978 also gave off streaks of blue light as if dropping something. Another similar type event occurred during the sightings at Maydena in 1976 when on one occasion one of the lights passing over the town was seen to drop a streak of light. This was seen by many people as it fell towards the ground then just blinked out.

LIGHTS AGAIN

Another sighting with just a light or lights involved occurred on August 11th at Geilston Bay when two witnesses noticed a light low to the north, then drove to near Risdon Vale and spotted the same or similar light recede into the distance.

It was 9.50 p.m. when Mrs. K saw a white light in a gap between two hills to the north. The large light moved slowly to the west for about a minute until it was above the hilltop. Then it went down out of sight, the witness was then mystified to see it come back up again before going fast back to its original location.

Together with her daughter, Mrs. K. drove to near Risdon Vale and was able to observe a similar light low to the north, it appeared to be heading north and getting smaller and smaller. The witness then returned home.

LANDING ON THE PLATEAU?

Mountain Creek runs from the north into Lake Sorell, scene of more than its fair share of sightings back in 1975. Yet another interesting report has come out of the area; this time from two witnesses in their four-wheel drive vehicle in the early hours of July 6th.

One of the witnesses, despite local "ribbing", reported the details to the Centre. He had no prior interest in the UFO subject, his family having been farmers in the same district for many years.

At the time of the sighting the witnesses were over 1000 mts up in the high country north of Lake Sorell near Mountain Creek. They were out shooting and had their dog out of the vehicle.

The driver of the vehicle noticed a light at ground level to the north-east. It was partially obscured by some tea-tree and they thought at first it must be another vehicle's lights. It looked to be 300 mts distant. There was a deep whirring noise like an electric motor. One witness was now out of the vehicle and it became obvious they were not looking at headlights.

A long body was being illuminated by a green-yellow phosphorous type glow from beneath. It was about 8m long and 2m high. At each side was a white light with a red flickering light in the centre. The object was not moving but looked to be at ground level. The night was freezing cold and windy (snow fell heavily the next day) and a fog on the marsh early did not seem affected by the wind. The object gave the impression of slowly rotating.

Feeling disturbed by the presence of the object five shots were fired in its direction. At this it slowly moved away to the north-east just above the ground level (1m (est)), illuminating the ground beneath and still rotating and making the whirring noise.

The object glided up over some ridges and went out of sight behind the same momentarily. Then it reappeared as it shot up into the sky vertically; in a second it had just disappeared into nothing. Within seconds their dog returned to the vehicle, jumping in through the window and appearing in an agitated state with his hairs standing on end. The men hurried off from the location in such a rush the four wheel drive suffered slight damage from a tree stump.

For some time after the dog's behaviour altered; it howled to get inside at night time and was rather timid and cautious. Previously he had been content to remain outside with the other farm dogs.

Other sightings occurred in the Lake Sorell area in early 1975 when a large disc-like UFO with a beam onto the lake below seems to have affected radio reception. It left a glow on the lake for a while after its departure. Other sightings occurred in the district over the next few weeks. Sightings were reported again in February 1976, March 1978 and again in August 1978.

LANDING IN HUONVILLE?

Mr. R of Huonville had retired for the night but was awoken about 11.40 p.m. one night in September 1978 by his own and several neighbourhood dogs barking incessantly. Mr. R told the story to the Centre recently after his report reached us second hand.

Mr. R who had been in the Navy for a number of years had little knowledge of the UFO phenomena. After his experience he told a number of people about the event but was ridiculed, so he kept the story to himself.

He lay in bed listening to the dogs barking for 15 minutes, then decided to get up and try to quieten them down. His own dog whom he says was extremely obedient came up to him at the back door still "carrying on and barking". Mr. R thought there must be a prowler about so he sent his dog off to see where he would go. The dog went to the end of the back yard where a gate led into the paddock beyond. It was then for the first time the witness noticed there was something in the paddock near which the dog was now sitting and barking.

Mr. R could see a grey object with what looked like windows; he tried to "set" his dog onto the object but it would go no closer than 15 mts. and just continued to bark. The fact that the dog sensed the presence of something convinced R he was not seeing things. R went inside and put on his clothes, collected his gun, then headed to the end of his backyard to see what he should do next.

Continued on Page 10.

TASMANIAN UFO RESUME

The recent dearth of sightings has given us the opportunity to review previous UFO trends for some indication of where, and if indeed we will have any further UFO sighting flaps. Quite often in the past there have been a run of reports in country areas without the sightings coming to the Centre's attention until some time has passed. In fact it is quite possible that flaps have occurred and passed without ever coming to the Centre's notice. Invariably when old reports come to hand they fit into pre-existing flap patterns .

A record of Tasmanian sightings has been compiled over the years and we know that local UFO reports follow patterns noticed elsewhere in the world.

Tasmanian flaps have occurred in differing media environments, some with plenty of coverage which has generated further investigations, whilst on other occasions the publicity has done nothing to intensify a flap. The North-East flap of 1974 received coverage in the south of the state only. No reports came to light in the south, but reports still emanated out of the North-East. Media coverage at times will generate a lot of noise but no signal.

The Centre formed in 1965 but Unexplained reports date as far back as 1948 in our files. The few reports prior to 1960 cannot be fitted into any noticeable pattern.

THE FIRST FLAP

The first recorded "Flap" in the state occurred in late 1960; here again it is likely that many reports will have been lost due to the lack of an investigatory body at that time.

A rash of reports occurred in the Northern Midlands, in October to November 1960 with the centre of activity apparently at Cressy. The most notable case involved a cigar-shaped object with attendant discs (1). The Launceston Examiner gave the case front page coverage resulting in many calls to the newspaper. The flap featured cigar objects and explosions. Like many UFO flaps the reports ceased just as suddenly as they had commenced.

CENTRE FORMED

The formation of the Centre in 1965 produced a flow of reports but hardly any dated back prior to 1965 as one would have expected. There was an increase in sightings Worldwide, so it is not clear if the increase in cases was due to the Centre's formation or just that more UFOs were being seen, probably the former.

Sightings by present standards tended to be of low Strangeness; the highlight was a run of Nocturnal light activity at lonely Maatsuyker Island, over the period October 1965 to February 1966. The first half of 1966 brought a scattering of cases across the state. A dome-like object with beam on to the ground beneath was seen at Hillwood, and an object near ground level at Woodbridge were received by the Centre. The first such sighting of this type.

The balance of 1966 and the years 1967-68 brought little activity, again in keeping with world-wide trends. However, one case in 1968 may have been the first in the state with electro magnetic effects. A motorist reporting to the Centre some years later, that a bright glow had been seen and that his car lights faded.

LANDINGS

The following year brought forth a new type of event to the Tasmanian scene.—landings! Such reports to date had occurred in South America, France, and the USA, The cases all occurred between March and June. Alone they did not constitute a flap but by occurring in such a small time span makes them of interest. In fact landings have still remained few and far between despite flaps of more massive proportions number wise.

The first case was at Southport Lagoon (2) when a silver ball-like object was seen on the beach. The next event was also by the shoreline, this time at Kelvedon where a disc object rose from the ground (3). The third event with alleged traces, was at Glenorchy (4), Again a dome-like shape was seen rising rapidly from the backyard.

The next evening a nocturnal light was seen near ground level at Mt. Lloyd. The last sighting was North of Tarralee, when again an object was seen to rise up from near the ground at the approach of the witness's vehicle.

Some of the cases did not come to notice until a couple of years after; it was not fashionable in those days to make reports to the Centre.

ALL QUIET THEN BACK TO BUSINESS

The Two years from mid 1969 to early 1971 saw a few strange reports but in the main it was a quiet period. Two interesting cases were a close encounter by a fisherman off the East Coast, and a Car pace with Radio effects near Scottsdale in early 1970 (5).

The early 1970's saw the Centre gaining increasing publicity but still most of the sightings were coming via the media, an aspect that gradually changed over the period 1973/74.

April 1971 brought a burst of strange events, in a matter of days there had been landings at Norwood and Lynchford with possible connected traces, and close encounters at Strahan, Cethana and Ranelagh (6). Another two landings occurred at Wilmot during the next two months, before events took a turn for the quiet again.

The Lynchford event received wide publicity as did the Wilmot cases to a lesser extent. Probably other sightings went unreported at this time, as other leads on cases at Wilmot and in the Midlands came to light but could not be followed up.

But the phenomena had yet another surprise when the Mercury Representative at New Norfolk became embroiled in a number of cases in the locale; in fact he was witness to a multiple sighting of a dome object seen from differing points at the same time. (7).

The years 1972/73 saw a flow of cases, as the Centre became known to the public via its Annual report and generous radio and TV coverage. However, most cases were of low strangeness although a report of figures in an object at Campania was the first case of its type to be received direct from the witness (8).

A MASSIVE FLAP

The four years from 1974 to 1977 saw the Centre all but overwhelmed with, at times a non-stop flow of UFO cases of almost every type. The flaps of earlier years dwindled into insignificance as a massive number of 53 unidentified cases occurred during 1974. The action eased slightly over the following years, 1975 having 46 cases, 1976 with 42, and 1977 saw the end of the prolonged flap with 35 cases.

Twenty-one Car pace events alone were reported in 1974, 5 of these involving apparent effects on vehicles in some way. Surprisingly the year brought only one possible landing despite all the activity, although many cases were at low level.

Close encounters at Latrobe and Westerway in February (9) set the ball rolling. Then rumours came to the Centre's investigators of reports in the far North-East of the state. Gladstone featured in many of the events that occurred between May and early November. Sightings came from elsewhere in the state, the West and North West but sightings in the South were practically nil.

Low-level banana-shaped objects (or object) seemed to take a liking to the Gladstone district for most of the winter months, then even more strange events occurred in other North-Eastern areas. A woman found her car halted by a hard-to-explain glow on Anson's Bay Road; the mother and her children suffered from an electric shock sensation and fled from the car. A few days later another motorist, this time waiting in a parked car at Tayene, saw a domed shaped object come to a halt only metres from her car in broad daylight. Yet another Auto-stop occurred a few kilometres away on The Sideling some weeks later.

LAKE SORELL

Despite a few lulls, the sightings soon got going again the following year (1975)

Although the focal point changed this time to Lake Sorell on Tasmania's Central plateau (10), a spectacular disc, shaped object which left a glow on the lake below, also affected the witness's radio. Further reports occurred in the area and on a particular Highland farm there were repeated light cases during the flap. The sightings spilled over into the nearby Midland area with a number of Car pace events with possible Auto-stop that had similarities to the Anson's Bay Road event occurring on the Tasman Highway.

The North-East, so busy in 1974, was now, it seems back to normal, and the Lake Sorell area was no different, as the sightings stopped as suddenly as they had started and the Centre of attention moved elsewhere.

MAYDENA

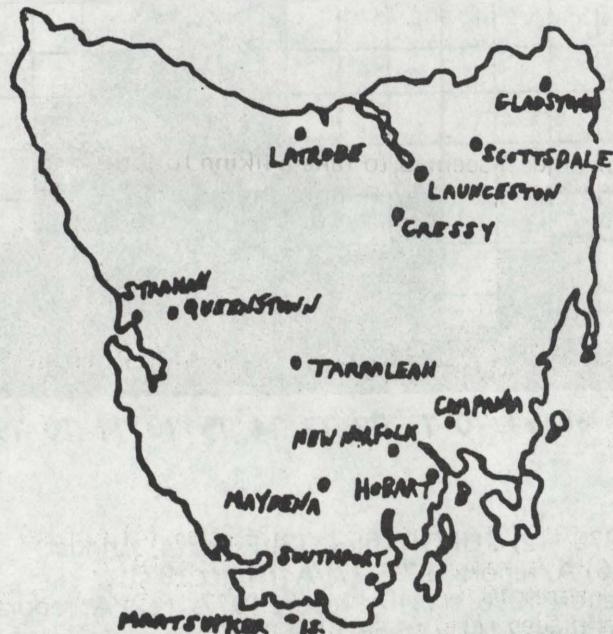
The Maydена flap of February-April 1976 was covered by TV, Newspaper and radio. A series of fly-overs by nocturnal lights occurred over the town with a couple of hundred witnesses on the occasion when the church bell was rung to alert the townsfolk of the approaching lights. (11). Sightings were reported also in the Derwent Valley, whilst a case from the Channel area south of Hobart involved traces and possible figures. Two other events with figures came to the Centre's notice but no UFO was seen at the time, one was at Granton, the second Collinsvale (12).

It looked like another good year as 1977 got under way with a rash of lights cases in the Hobart and Tasman Peninsula areas. One whizzing light over a Hobart suburb being reported by three separate witnesses. The first 7 months brought 33 unexplained cases then the tap was turned off and only a further 2 UFO sightings happened in the last 5 months.

ALL QUIET

The last three years (1978-1980) have seen their share of reports with a high strangeness but the non-stop flow of cases has dwindled to zero level. The odd burst of events has been noted, late 1978 due to the Valentich incident, had witnesses calling the Centre. A strange green shape affected a car radio at Risdon Vale. The same period saw a puzzling doorway of light at Sandford, and figures (less UFO) at Snug (13). An auto stop and lost memory sighting occurred at Lawitta (14) in February 1979, whilst some interesting EMF cases occurred on the West Coast later in the year. The past twelve months have seen reports at the lowest level since 1960s; there seems no way to go, but up, only time will tell. A check of the tables will show that the heady years of 1974-77 were not, it seems the norm.

LOCATION MAP



FLAP AREAS

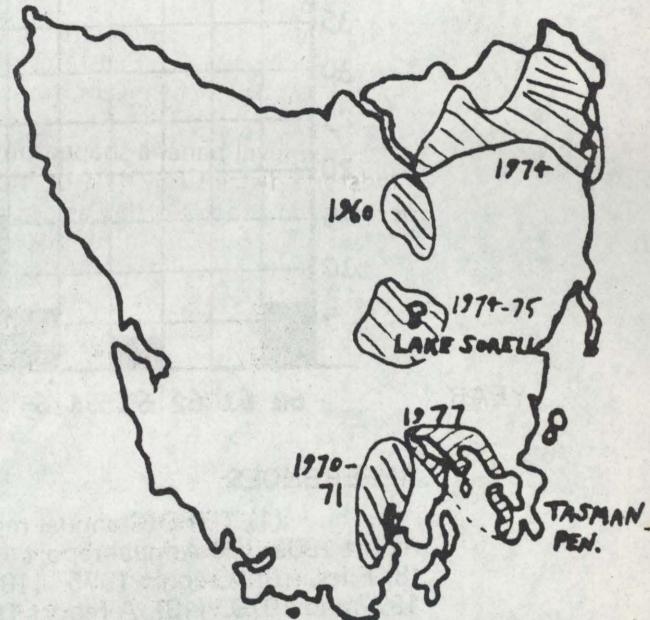
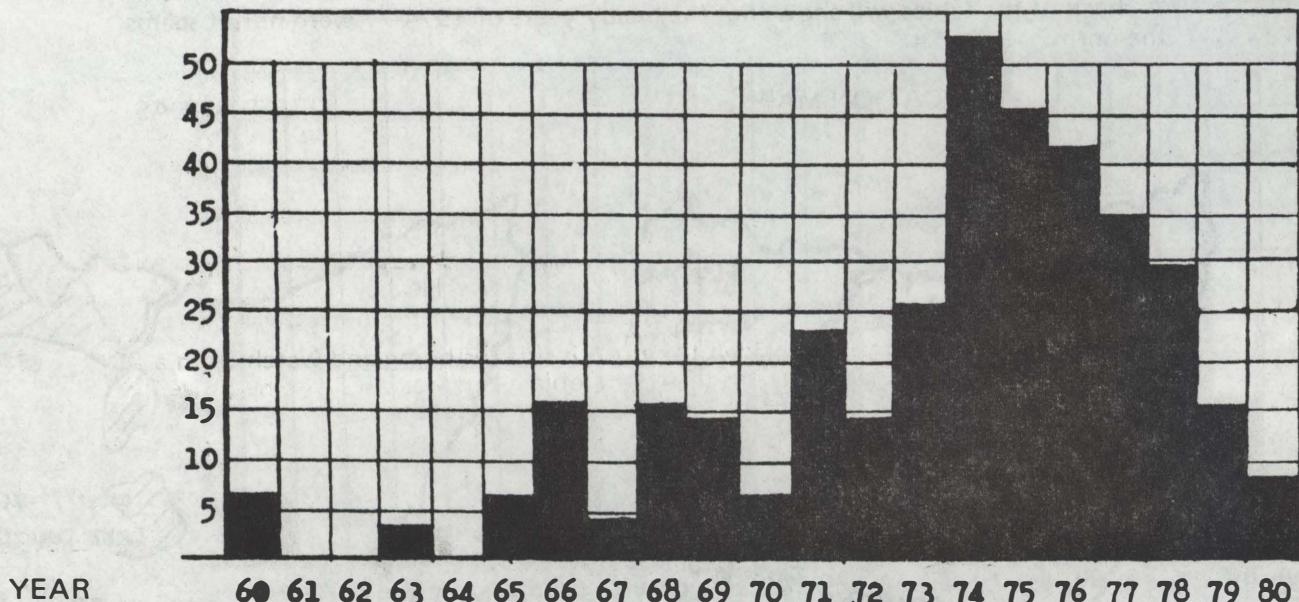


TABLE ONE

YEAR	UFOs	STRANGENESS		FLAP AREAS	(Flap s'ness total)
		TOTAL	AVERAGE		
1960	7	13	1.9	Cressy/Midlands	(12)
1961	0	0	0		
1962	0	0	0		
1963	3	6	2.0		
1964	0	0	0		
1965	7	21	3.0	Maatsuyker Is.	(4)
1966	16	30	1.9		
1967	4	5	1.2		
1968	16	20	3.3		
1969	14	47	3.4		
1970	7	38	5.4		
1971	23	94	4.1	Wilmot (16), Huon/New Norfolk (51)	
1972	14	65	4.6		
1973	26	91	3.5		
1974	53	216	4.1	NE (114), NW/W (41)	
1975	46	212	4.6	Highlands (73), SE (66)	
1976	42	160	3.8	Maydena / South (73)	
1977	35	105	3.0	Hobart / Tasman Pen. (91)	
1978	29	66	2.3		
1979	16	50	3.1		
1980	8	18	2.2		

The strangeness value is based on the Centre's own system. The sighting is determined as being a NL, CE etc. and the value obtained. EG an NL has a value of 1. an NL or DD of resolved shape 2. CE 1 is 3, or 4 if it is less than 100 Metres distant. CE 2 is 5. Occupant with no UFO is 7. and CE 3 is 8.

TABLE TWO



REFERENCES:

- (1) TUFOIC annual report 1970. (2) TUFOIC files. (3) Files. (4) Annual report 1969. (5) Annual report 1970. (6) A. report 1971. (7) A. report 1971. (8) Files. (9) A. report 1975. (10) A. Report 1976. (11) A. report 1977. (12) A. report 1977 and 1979. (13). A report 1979 and files. (14) A. report 1980.

ANOTHER 1978 REPORT

Another old case to come to light occurred at Rokeby about 1 a.m. on December 28th. A wife and daughter were waiting for the husband to return home in the still clear early hours. A very white light was noticed to the north-west. It caught their attention due to its large size; it looked like a moon in the sky. It was moving slowly south at a high elevation.

They watched as the light (or object) took an estimated 20 minutes to pass west of their house and finally come to a halt to their south. At this stage they decided to go out for a better look. The ball looked to be rotating; in fact it continued to do so for the duration of the sighting. It was rotating in a anti-clockwise motion. It seemed to have a bright side and a dark side with no illumination at all as it slowly rotated. The bright side was so bright when at its closest to the witnesses that it lit up the ground, trees, hill and house.

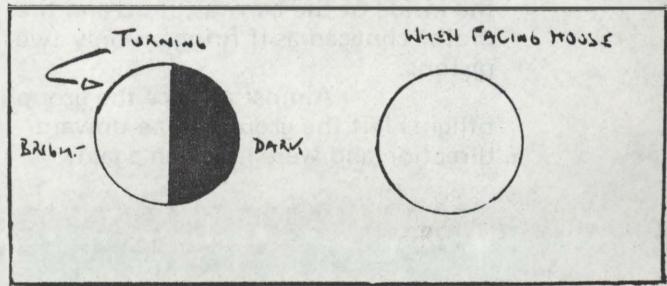
They estimated that the light which now looked to be coming closer was about 1 km or less distant. There was no noise. Being disturbed at the closeness of the ball of light which had approached then stopped again, the witnesses went back inside. The object now reversed along its previous flight path to the south before disappearing rapidly north in a burst of speed. Prior to the incident the witnesses had taken no interest in the UFO subject and kept the case a secret until contacting the Centre in 1980.

Second Light and Beam

A sighting in September 1979 also involved a bright light that lit up the ground as it travelled along. This time the sighting occurred near Forcett at four in the morning.

The witness had to start work early and was travelling up to Sorell on the Arthur Highway. He noticed two white lights out to the east and slowly heading across his field of vision. He travelled some 3 kmts along the road keeping a watch on the lights which eventually crossed the road ahead. He estimated the two lights were 50 to 100 mts away and about 200 mts up.

As the light approached he could see that the paddocks and trees below were lit up by a wide area of light about 100 mts in radius. As the lights passed over the road his vehicle was lit up inside as if he had passed below an extra bright street light. This lasted for about 10 seconds.



LANDING AT HUONVILLE (from Page 5.)

R. came to halt about 25 mts from the object which was across the fence apparently just sitting in the paddock. It was now that he was able to have a good look at what was there. The night was cold but moonlit. The dog continued to growl whilst other nearby dogs continued to bark.

R. says the object was boomerang-like in shape and a diffused light grey in colour. The estimated length was 10 mts and it was about 2 mts in depth. There were four windows along the side 60 x 60 cms in size. Inside these windows there was a dull light which could be seen clearly through each window. He saw nothing through the window. He could not see beneath the object. The top of the object was flat.

It was very cold so R. decided to return inside his home and watch from a back room. He wanted other witnesses to see the object but was afraid if he moved off it may disappear before he could return with someone else. It was by now 2 hours since he first saw the object feeling tired so he decided to lie down on his bed and wait for some movement.

Instead he fell asleep and on waking up in the morning there was nothing to be seen in the paddock. He went straight to the paddock but there was no trace or marks left where he had seen the boomerang shape with the light inside.

R. says he was laughed down next day when he mentioned the sighting. His dog who would do anything for him knew there was something there and that was good enough for him.

The Centre had no other reports from the Huon area at that time although the next month saw a rash of cases including the Valentich incident over Bass Strait.

1981-09-27 B
11.

SIMILARITIES IN 1979 REPORTS...

The Australian Centre for UFO Studies in their Interesting Cases Reports for 1979 have a couple of sightings with similarities to the February 5th (1979) case at Lawitta. The witness in this incident suffered a memory loss after his vehicle seemed to have been halted by an intense white light that enveloped the car.

Four days later on February 9th on the Bruce Highway between Innisfail and Mission Beach (Qld) a lone motorist noticed a white light sitting on the edge of the road.

Nearing the light he noted what looked like a dark beehive shape behind it. The light then rose vertically and when it was an estimated 10 m away from him there was a blinding flash. Upon regaining his sight he realized that the car's headlights, and engine had ceased to function. He coasted to a stop in a layby. He was just lighting a cigarette when the headlights came on of their own accord. He tried the engine which started first time and he drove home.

Another case of interest occurred between Bribie Island and Brisbane on May 6th. Four witnesses were travelling in a car just after midnight.

Bright orange lights were seen ahead that lit up the surrounding area. As they approached the lights the inside of the car was lit up and the motor chugged as if firing on only two pistons.

Almost at once the group of flights left the ground in an upward direction and were not seen again.

..... PUBLICATIONS

Need a back copy of an Annual Report? 1978, 1979 and 1980 are still available at 60¢ each. Another must is The Tasmanian UFO Landings Catalogue at \$2.00. This has a list of all landings and low level reports on the Centre's files. (excluding the two cases in the 1981 Annual Report).

MERCURY 6.12.80.

UFOs tracked

● Air traffic controllers at Perth airport spent several hours tracking unidentified flying objects on their radar yesterday.

The controllers said they made two or three visual sightings between 8 o'clock and 11 o'clock yesterday morning.

The Regional Director of Transport, Mr Ellis Keil, said the silver tumbling discs were tracked on radar at a height of more than 8,000 metres until they disappeared at more than 20,000 metres.

There were no aircraft or weather balloons in the area to explain the sightings.

TAS. UFO INVESTIGATION CENTRE

TUFOIC founded 1965, Address: Box 99 P.O. N.Hobart, Tasmania..7002. Sightings to President on 44 4041 Investigations Co-Ordinator 23 6009 (evenings).

Aims: To conduct investigation into Tasmanian sightings. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to the UFO phenomena. To co-operate with organisations engaged in similar research.

Membership: Membership is open to all who support the aims of the Centre and can assist in furthering its aims. Information can be obtained from the Secretary or by attending any of the meetings listed for 1980.

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